

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 IO-10 NASA-02

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APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:DBORTMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS STATE 041415

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, US

SUBJECT: MICROWAVE LANDING SYSTEM (MLS) SELECTION BY USG

REF: LONDON 1419(NOTAL); STATE 37778(NOTAL)

MONTREAL FOR US ICAO REP

1. THE UNITED STATES MLS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS CALLED A NEWS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE UNANIMOUS SELECTION OF TIME-REFERENCE SCANNING-BEAM MLS (TRSB) AS THE TECHNIQUE WHICH THE USG WILL SUBMIT TO ICAO.
2. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WITH REPS FROM DOD, DOT, FAA, AND NASA, UNDERTOOK DETAILED REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATION BY MAJORITY OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL ASSESSMENT GROUP (CAG). CAG RECOMMENDED SELECTION OF TRSB, OPPOSED BY 2 OF 4 CONTRACTORS, UK CAA, AND PLESSEY.

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3. MLS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FINDINGS WERE:

- (A) BOTH SCANNING-BEAM MLS AND THE DOPPLER-SCAN MLS DESIGNS WERE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND BOTH TECHNICALLY CAPABLE OF MEETING OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.
- (B) CAG STEERING COMMITTEE SELECTION PROCESS WAS NOT ENTIRELY FREE FROM CRITICISM BUT WAS FAIR AND FREE FROM DISQUALIFYING FLAWS.
- (C) CAG STEERING COMMITTEE SELECTION WAS NECESSARILY ACCOMPLISHED BY THE ENGINEERING JUDGMENT OF THE MEMBERS DUE TO THE SIMILAR CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TWO TYPES OF MLS.
- (D) THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FINDS THAT OPERATIONAL AND COST FACTORS SUPPORT PREFERENCE FOR TRSB.

4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONCLUDED THAT THERE NOW EXISTS SUFFICIENT DATA FOR SELECTION OF TRSB FOR SUBMISSION TO ICAO ALL WEATHER OPERATIONS PANEL (AWOP).

5. UK WERE NOTIFIED OF DECISION BY FAA ON FRIDAY. FAA HAS MAILED COPY OF REPORT TO FAA LONDON. KISSINGER

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